

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Order is normally only open to professing Christians

In keeping with the ecumenical nature of the Order a broad definition of the term 'professing Christian' is applied and membership may be open to all men and women who support Chivalric Christian ideals. People of high ideals who hold other beliefs may also be admitted to membership. Members may be absolved from any ritual practices of the Order which may be contrary to the practices of their religious beliefs.

The Order is opposed to sexism and welcomes lady members without restriction on opportunity.

The order welcomes members from all ethnic backgrounds without restriction on opportunity.

Preceptors have authority to admit Squires.

A majority vote of the Grand Council is required to empower the Grand Prior to admit a member of Chivalry to the grade of Chevalier or above according to the admission procedures as described in the Bye-laws.

The Grand Council may by majority vote at a meeting of the Grand Council expel any member from the Chivalry or re-instate any member to membership of the Chivalry.

There is an honorary grade of membership with admission at the discretion of the Grand Prior.

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MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Does the Order need new members?
Yes of course the Members Of Chivalry are the life blood Of the Order.

What can the Order do for me?
This is the wrong question. Templars ask instead what can I do for the order?
Membership is quite literally an opportunity to serve.

Is membership available on application?
No there are both informal and formal vetting procedures.

How are new members introduced?
Usually by a personal friend or contact but anyone seriously interested in learning more about the Order is welcome to seek contact with a local Preceptory who would typically respond with an opportunity to attend a Templar social event by way of initial introduction.

CONTACT ADDRESS

Your Local Contact is:-

Your enquiry will be passed to a local Preceptor of the order.



Militi Templi Scotia



AN INTRODUCTION TO

Scottish Knights Templar

TEMPLAR HISTORY

1118 The Knights Templar were founded to protect pilgrim routes in the Holy Land by Hugues de Payens in the reign of Baldwin II who granted quarters in Jerusalem on the site of the Temple of Solomon; hence the name Knights of the Temple. The secular overlord was the Count of Champagne with spiritual leadership given by St. Bernard of Clairvaux.

1128 Council of Troyes under the guidance of St. Bernard of Clairvaux

1129 Hugues de Payen visits Scotland

1147 Use of the red cross of the Order initiated.

1154 Sovereign authority of the Grand Master recognised by Louis VII of France

1291 With the fall of Acre the Templars found themselves distanced from the Holy Land and lacking *raison d'être*.

1312 Following false charges the Order is dissolved by Papal decree and subjected to a cruel persecution but not in Scotland where Templars fleeing France found refuge under an excommunicated King Robert the Bruce.

1314 Knights Templar fight with Bruce. William de St Clair who fought at Bannockburn is buried at Rosslyn Chapel in the style of master of the Temple.



F. JACQUES DE MOLAY
24TH GRAND MASTER OF THE TEMPLE.
MARTYRED 14TH MARCH 1314

1689 John Grahame of Claverhouse died at Killiecrankie wearing the Grand Cross of the Order.

1705 General Statutes and Election Charter

1745 Prince Charles Edward Stewart, himself a senior Templar gives a soiree for the Chivalry of the Order in Edinburgh.

1810 Alexander Deuchar becomes Master of *Militi Templi Scotia* an office he was to hold until 1835.

1853 Napoleon III acknowledges the Order as a Sovereign Power and Grants the right to carry decorations on French territory

1995 Representatives of the Grand Priorities of Germany and Austria are granted an audience with His Holiness the Pope.

Major International Conclaves in London and Salzburg with Scotland represented produce a full democratic re-structuring of *Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi Hierosolymitani* ready for service in the 21st century.

The motto of the Order is:

*Non nobis Domine, non nobis sed Nomini
Tuo da Gloriam*
Not for us O Lord, not for us but in
Your Name is the Glory

NAME

The Order incorporates

Militi Templi Scotia
The Sovereign Military Order of the
Temple of Jerusalem
*Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi
Hierosolymitani*

NATURE

- The organisation is an Order of Knights Templar
- The Order is an ecumenical Christian organisation
- The Order is democratic
- The Order is apolitical

AIM

The aim of the Order is to serve God and Scotland

ACTIVITIES

In pursuit of the aim to serve God and Scotland, members of this Templar order engage in activities which:

- Help preserve Scotland's traditions and heritage
- Support charitable interests